

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification by marked up replacement paragraph(s) as follows.

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 1, lines 7-16, as follows:

The present application is related to the following co-pending applications, which are filed on even date herewith and incorporated herein by reference:

- (1) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. (Docket No. RIC00033) 09/723,482, entitled "Network Access System Including a Programmable Access Device Having Distributed Service Control;"
- (2) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. (Docket No. RIC00043) 09/723,501, entitled "External Processor for a Distributed Network Access System;" and
- (3) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. (Docket No. RIC00044) 09/723,480, entitled "Message, Control and Reporting Interface for a Distributed Network Access System."

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